

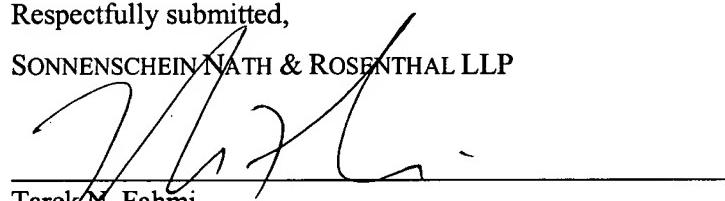
## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested under Rule 116.

With the exception of claims 7 and 21, and their respective dependent claims, all of the pending claims have been indicated as being allowable. Claims 7 and 21, and their respective dependent claims have therefore been cancelled to expedite allowance of this application.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge our deposit account no. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Dated: December 22, 2005

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